

REMARKS

The Final Office Action dated September 3, 2003, has been received and reviewed.

Claims 10-37 and 59-83 are currently pending in the above-referenced application. Of these, claims 23, 36, and 73 have been withdrawn from consideration for being drawn to a non-elected invention. Claims 25-35, 37, 59-72, and 74-83 have been allowed. It has also been indicated that claims 11-13, 17, 18, 21, 22, and 24 recite allowable subject matter. Claims 10, 14-16, 19, and 20 stand rejected.

It is proposed that claim 22 be canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, the subject matter recited therein having been incorporated into claim 10.

The remaining claim amendments that are proposed herein merely replace the term "said" with "the" and, thus, do not affect or alter the scope of any of the claims. None of the proposed claim amendments introduces new matter into the above-referenced application.

It is proposed that new claims 84-119 be added.

Reconsideration of the above-referenced application is respectfully requested.

Information Disclosure Statement

Please note that a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was filed in the above-referenced application on August 29, 2003, but that the undersigned attorney has not yet received any indication that the references cited in the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement have been considered in the above-referenced application. It is respectfully requested that the references cited in the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement of August 29, 2003, be considered and made of record in the above-referenced application and that an initialed copy of the Form PTO/SB/08A that accompanied that Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement be returned to the undersigned attorney as evidence of such consideration.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 10, 14-16, 19, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for reciting subject matter which is purportedly unpatentable over the subject matter taught in U.S. Patent 5,245,216

to Sako (hereinafter “Sako”), in view of teachings from U.S. Patent 5,362,984 to Konda et al. (hereinafter “Konda”).

M.P.E.P. § 706.02(j) sets forth the standard for a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a):

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, and not based on applicant’s disclosure. *In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991).

It is respectfully submitted that a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established against any of claims 10, 14-16, 19, or 20.

Specifically, it is respectfully submitted that the asserted combination of Sako and Konda does not teach or suggest each and every element of any of claims 10, 14-16, 19, or 20.

FIGs. 7-10 of Sako illustrate a semiconductor device assembly that includes a lead frame with islands 11-1, 11-2 and inner leads 14, semiconductor elements 12-1, 12-2 positioned on islands 11-1, 11-2 of the lead frame, an insulating circuit board 17 bridging islands 11-1 and 11-2, and bond wires 15 connecting bond pads of the semiconductor elements 12-1, 12-2 to the inner leads 14 and to wires 16 of the insulating circuit board 17. *See also* col. 3, lines 7-34. This assembly is encapsulated within a molding resin 19. *Id.*

Notably, the islands 11-1 and 11-2 of the lead frame taught in Sako are separated from one another, “with no island below the circuit board 17.” Col. 3, lines 35-39.

Konda teaches the use of resin sealed “jumping wires” in semiconductor device assemblies.

Independent claim 10, as proposed to be amended, recites a semiconductor device assembly that includes a substrate, at least one semiconductor device secured to the substrate, and a polymeric film separate from the substrate and positioned at least partially over at least one of the substrate and the at least one semiconductor device. The polymeric film carries at least one conductive trace in communication with at least one of a terminal of the substrate and a bond pad of the at least one semiconductor device. Additionally, the polymeric film and the at least one conductive trace extend through a plane of the substrate.

Neither Sako nor Konda teaches or suggests a polymeric film which extends through the plane of a separate substrate. It is, therefore, respectfully submitted that amended independent claim 10 recites subject matter which is allowable over that taught in Sako and Konda. Further, the Office has already indicated that this subject matter, which was previously recited in claim 22, is allowable. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), amended independent claim 10 recites subject matter which is allowable over that taught in Sako and Konda.

Claims 14-16, 19, and 20 are each allowable, among other reasons, for depending either directly or indirectly from claim 10, which is allowable.

For these reasons, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections of claims 10, 14-16, 19, and 20 is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

The indication that claims 11-13, 17, 18, 21, 22, and 24 recite allowable subject matter is noted with appreciation, as is the allowance of claims 25-35, 37, 59-72, and 74-83.

Proposed New Claims

It is proposed that new claims 84-119 be added.

New claim 84 is an independent claim which includes all of the limitations of claim 11, which was indicated to be allowable. New claims 85-97 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 84 and recite the same subject matter as that recited in claims 12-24, respectively.

New claim 98 is an independent claim which includes all of the limitations of claim 17, which was indicated to be allowable. New claims 99-108 depend from claim 98 and recite the same subject matter as that recited in claims 11-13 and 18-24, respectively.

New claim 109 is an independent claim which includes all of the limitations of claim 21, which was indicated to be allowable. New claims 110-119 depend from claim 109 and recite the same subject matter as that recited in claims 11-13, 17-20, and 22-24, respectively.

It is respectfully submitted that none of new claims 84-119 introduces new matter into the above-referenced application.

ENTRY OF AMENDMENTS

It is respectfully submitted that the proposed amendments to the claims should be entered since they are supported by the as-filed specification and drawings, do not add any new matter to the above-referenced application, and will not require a further search. Also, the proposed amendment of claim 10 and the proposed entry of new claims 84-109 reduces the issues that remain in the above-referenced application for purposes of appeal. If it is determined that the proposed amendments do not place the application in condition for allowance, entry thereof is respectfully requested upon filing of a Notice of Appeal in the above-referenced application.

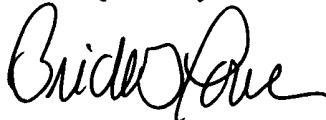
ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

It is respectfully submitted that independent claims 10-21, 24-35, 37, 59-71, and 72 remain generic to all of the species of invention that were identified in the Election of Species Requirement in the above-referenced application. In view of the allowability of these claims, claims 23, 36, and 73, which have been withdrawn from consideration, should also be allowed.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that each of claims 10-21, 23-37, and 59-119 is allowable. An early notice of the allowability of each of these claims is respectfully solicited, as is an indication that the above-referenced application has been passed for issuance. If any issues preventing allowance of the above-referenced application remain which might be resolved by way of a telephone conference, the Office is kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brick G. Power". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Brick" being more prominent.

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